



LLANDEILO
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for 1971

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1971.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We present the 1971 Annual Report on the Environmental Circumstances of the Urban District of Llandeilo.

Last year in our report we were pleased to state that from the general Public Health aspect the year had been satisfactory, as there were no serious incidents or outbreaks of infectious diseases. Unfortunately, this year we cannot report in a similar vein as there were two outbreaks of Food Poisoning originating in a local Hotel. More details of these outbreaks are given in the text of the report.

Pollution is still a very popular word, and under this heading one must consider pollution of the air, water, and land, and the general environment. Llandeilo is fortunately situated in a Rural area where the types of pollution experienced by urban dwellers in congested areas do not exist. This does not mean that we are free from pollution in its many aspects. It is probably true to say that the more serious causes of pollution to the general environment of Llandeilo arise from vehicles, both from the point of view of the contamination they cause to the atmosphere by the emission of petrol and exhaust fumes, and also by the noise emitted. The narrowness of the main street of the Town adds to the annoyance caused by heavy vehicles in particular, which at times is intolerable and causes great inconvenience to persons working in adjacent buildings. The projected trunk road bypass will certainly alleviate much of the noise and pollution problems at present created by these vehicles. Evidence of pollution can be seen on the white painted wood-work and the light coloured walls of the properties which have recently been re-decorated to conform to schemes put forward by the Local Civic Trust Society.

It is hoped during the next year to take a selection of noise level readings in parts of the main street so that an overall picture of the problem can be seen.

As the dangers from various types of pollution are being more and more recognised and given wider publicity in the daily papers and on television, it behoves every authority of whatever size to take all possible steps to prevent contamination of the environment, and also ensure that they themselves are not guilty of creating pollution.

The housing progress in the area has remained static from the Local Authority point of view, apart from the fact that houses are being improved by means of Improvement Grants. The Government's encouragement to owners to improve their properties is having a satisfactory effect although it can be said that the applications for grants are from owner occupied premises rather than tenanted premises. Out of a total of 712 dwellings a total of 126 Improvement Grants have been made up to the 31st December, 1971.

The water supply has been a source of trouble at certain times during the year, mainly because of discolouration which occurs at times of heavy rainfall. The condition of the water supply generally is referred to in the text of the report, but at this juncture it is felt that some emphasis should be made to the lack of fluoride in the water supply. It is hoped that in the future when the re-organisation of the Water Authorities in Wales comes about, the representatives of whatever body is constituted will have the foresight to try and ensure that the teeth of children are safeguarded, by following the advice of medical and dental authorities on the desirability of adding fluoride to the water supply.

We wish to express our appreciation and thanks to the members of the Council for their interest and support in the work of the Public Health Department, and also to Mr. I. J. Thomas Clerk of the Council for his advice and help, and to the clerical staff for their willing and ready services.

MARGARET STEANE M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

K.C. McCUTCHEON, M.A.P.H.I.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(General Purposes, Plans and Water).

As from January 1971 to April, 1971.

Councillor Hugh Howells (Chairman of
the Council).

Councillor D. R. Williams (Vice Chairman
of the Council).

Councillor Mrs. K. Bevan.

Councillor L. A. German.

Councillor I. Gwyn.

Councillor B. A. Hodge.

Councillor D. G. Hughes.

Councillor Mrs. P.I. Roderick.

Councillor J.O.E. Thomas, J.P.

As from May, 1971 to December, 1971.

Councillor D.R.Williams (Chairman of
the Council).

Councillor D.G.Hughes (Vice Chairman
of the Council).

Councillor T. G. Beynon.

Councillor A. H. T. Boot.

Councillor D. L. Davies.

Councillor Hugh Howells.

Councillor G. W. James.

Councillor Mrs. P. I. Roderick.

Councillor W. E. Whittingham.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

MARGARET STEANE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

N. C. McCUTCHEON, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT:

MRS. T. REES.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1971

Area of District	311 acres
Estimated Mid. Year Population in Llandeilo U.D.	1,800
Estimated Mid. Year Population in England and Wales	48,815,000
Number of Persons per acre	5.78
Number of Private Domestic Premises (Houses, Flats etc.)	516
Number of Business Premises with living accommodation	62
Number of Council owned dwellings	134
(inclusive of 16 purpose-built dwellings for the elderly persons)	
Total Number of dwellings	712
Number of Buildings completed during 1971	
(a) By the Council	Nil
(b) By private builders	2
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1971	£55,468
Net Product of a penny rate (70/71)	£521
Number of Burial Grounds	1
Number of Burial Grounds owned by the Council	Nil

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

POPULATION OF LLANDEILO URBAN DISTRICT

The estimated population of the Llandeilo Urban District has declined by 110 persons during the year 1971, which is disappointing after the increase shown last year.

TABLE OF POPULATION - BIRTHS AND DEATHS 1965 - 1971

Year	LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA			Population of Carmarthen- shire.	Population of Wales
	Number of Persons	Deaths	Births		
1965	1930	26	27	-	-
1966	1930	27	30	-	-
1967	1900	29	24	-	-
1968	1900	30	20	-	-
1969	1880	27	16	163,600	2,723,000
1970	1910	26	26	164,300	2,734,000
1971	1800	23	32	163,170	2,725,180

BIRTHS

Thirty-two births occurred during the year, an increase of six over 1970; and double the number in 1969.

		LLANDEILO URBAN DISTRICT			Carns.	England & Wales
		Males	Females	Total		
Live Births	Legitimate	16	15	31	2,103	717,491
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	129	65,674
	Total:	17	15	32	2,232	783,165
Still Births	Legitimate	-	-	-	20	8,826
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	3	1,072
	Total:	-	-	-	23	9,898
Total Live and Still Births	Legitimate	16	15	31	2,123	726,317
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	132	66,746
	Total	17	15	32	2,255	793,063

LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.

	Llandeilo U.D.	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate).	17.8	13.7	16.0
Area comparability factor.	1.16	1.09	1.0
Local adjusted rate.	20.6	14.9	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.29	0.93	1.0
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births	3	6.0	8

STILL BIRTH RATE

	Llandeilo U.D.	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Still births per 1,000 total live and still births	-	10	12

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

No deaths from childbirth occurred during the year 1971.

DEATHS OF INFANTS

AGE		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	CARMS.	ENGLAND & WALES
Under 1 Year	Legitimate	-	-	-	41	12,140
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	2	1,586
	Total:	-	-	-	43	13,726
Under 4 weeks	Legitimate	-	-	-	34	8,121
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	992
	Total:	-	-	-	34	9,113
Under 1 week	Legitimate	-	-	-	27	6,903
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	847
	Total:	-	-	-	27	7,750

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	Islandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	-	19	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	19	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	-	16	24
Neonatal mortality rate. Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births.	-	15	12
Early neonatal mortality rate Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-	12	10
Perinatal mortality rate Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births.	-	22	22

DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total	Carms.	England & Wales
All ages	12	11	23	2,320	567,345

Sixteen of the deaths were due to diseases of the cardiovascular system, and six due to malignant neoplasms.

DEATH RATES ETC. ALL AGES

	Llandeilo	Carmarthenshire	England & Wales
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate).	12.8	14.2	11.6
Area comparability Factor	.85	1.00	1.0
Local adjusted rate	10.9	14.2	11.6
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.94	1.22	1.0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1971ALL AGES

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	1	0	1
Other malignant neoplasms	0	2	2
Hypertensive disease	0	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	4	2	6
Other forms of heart disease	0	2	2
Cerebrovascular disease	3	4	7
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	0	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	12	11	23

NOTIFIABLE DISEASESFOOD POISONING

In July two outbreaks of Food Poisoning occurred originating in a local Hotel. The offending organism was Salmonella Typhimurium of phage type U 149 which was believed to have been present in an under-cooked frozen turkey, though the carcase was not available for examination. Although no deaths occurred, some of the patients were very ill. During these outbreaks a number of food handlers were found to be infected and had to be suspended from their work until free from infection.

These outbreaks involved the staff of this and neighbouring authorities, both inside and outside Carmarthenshire, in many hours of work extending over several weeks in locating contacts and obtaining specimens for bacteriological examination.

But for the prompt notification of the first cases by a general practitioner, the spread of infection might have been more extensive.

These outbreaks highlighted the already much publicised necessity of ensuring that frozen poultry, and in fact frozen meat of any kind, is thoroughly thawed out and properly cooked, a necessity which cannot be too strongly stressed.

MEASLES

During the year thirty-seven cases of measles were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

One new case of respiratory tuberculosis occurred during 1971.

CHOLERA

The Cholera epidemic occurring in Spain necessitated visits to returning travellers from this area to ensure the safety of the public.

IMMUNISATION

The following tables refer to the whole County of Carmarthenshire.
Separate figures for the Urban District are not available.

	P R I M A R Y						BOOSTERS
	Born 1971	Born 1970	Born 1969	Born 1968	Born 1967	Others up to 16 Years	
Triple Antigen	827	581	80	32	31	11	838
Diphtheria/Tetanus	3	32	1	4	5	4	605
Tetanus	1	1	..	-	19	110	152
Poliomyelitis	785	519	88	43	54	16	859
Measles	-	98	86	30	38	23	-
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	829	-

SMALLPOX VACCINATION (WHOLE COUNTY)

No figures are available for 1971. During this year, the routine vaccination of children during their second year ceased.

B.C.G. VACCINATION (WHOLE COUNTY)

	Contact Scheme	School Children
Number skin tested	126	1902
Number found negative	115	1693
Number vaccinated	112	1674

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

No action was required under this section which enables persons in need of care and attention to be removed to suitable premises.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT LLANDEILO CLINIC

	DAY	TIME
Orthopaedic Clinic (Children)	1st Tuesday in the month	10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Child Health Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Mothercraft & Relaxation Class	Thursday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Speech Therapy	Wednesdays	1.30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Hearing Assessments	By Appointment	
Dental Clinic (Children & Expectant Mothers)	By Appointment	

WELFARE FOODS

Welfare foods are sold at the Clinic, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, on Wednesdays from 2 - 4 p.m.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4,&6 are to be enforced by L.A.	2	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	20	2	0	0
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.(including out-workers premises).	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	2	0	0

2. Cases in which defects found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecution
Want of Cleanliness	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable Temperature	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0

W A T E R

The water supply to the Town was obtained from two sources, namely, Llandyfan Spring and the Llandeilo Rural District Council's supply.

The Llandyfan Spring is situated 5 miles from the Town at 480 ft. A.O.D. and 193 ft. above the highest point of the Town. The supply is derived from a spring in the Limestone stratum, with an estimated yield of 1.3 million gallons per day.

The supply from this source is conveyed by gravitation to the Town in 5" cast-iron pipes. The Llandyfan main is 67 years old.

The Llandyfan supply is chlorinated by a Wallace and Tiernan Plant at Derwydd.

Part of the Llandeilo Rural District is still supplied from the Llandyfan source, and part of the Urban District receives a supply from the Rural District main to which the Town mains are connected.

Routine checks are taken to determine the efficiency of the chlorination of the supply.

Discolouration of the Llandyfan source occurred again during the year, and water was obtained from the Llanelli and District Water Board for a short period. The discolouration of the water occurs after a prolonged period of heavy rain and results in minute particles of rock being scoured from places not normally reached by the water underground.

As the yield of the Llandyfan source has been estimated at 1.3 million gallons per day, if suitable storage and filtration facilities had been provided in the past, the present difficulties would not have arisen. The future of this source of supply is somewhat indefinite as the reorganisation of the Water Authorities proposed for 1974, may result in the linking up of the Town mains with the supply from the new Authority.

The water from Llandyfan source is regularly examined to ascertain its quality and a recent report is set out below:-

pH value	8.0
Colour (Hazen Units)	NIL
<u>P a r t s p e r M i l l i o n</u>	
Free and saline ammonia	NIL
Albuminoid ammonia	0.014
Nitrite nitrogen	NIL
Nitrate nitrogen	1.0
Oxygen consumed at 27°C from N/80 permanganate during 4 hours	0.35
Chlorides as Cl	13.00
Calculated as common salt	21.5
Total solids in solution	270.00
Line as CaO	95.00
Total alkalinity as CaCO ₃	160.00
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	170.00
Appearance	Bright and clear
Lead content (Pb)	NIL
Fluoride content (F)	0.12

This would be classified as a "slightly hard" to "moderately hard" water. It was of high organic purity and was free from metallic impurities.

A large quantity of the water was used for lead estimation and this was found to be entirely absent. The amount of fluoride naturally present in the water was about an eighth of that which is considered beneficial in water supplies."

Certain difficulties were experienced in maintaining a satisfactory supply to some high parts of the Town.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewers of the Town are combined, taking both sewage and surface water. The sewers serve the whole town with the exception of 15 properties in Carmarthen Road and Nantyrhilo areas. The sewers are constructed in stoneware pipes and culverts, the treatment being carried out at the Joint Sewage Works at Ffairfach. Where properties have septic tanks, these tanks are emptied free of charge by the Local Authority.

57 visits were made during the year for the purpose of testing drains, investigating complaints etc.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The refuse collection scheme worked well during the year, the public having now accepted the plastic sack system. There is no doubt that the present system is much more hygienic than the method previously in operation in the district, where a wide variety of open containers were used, and it would be very surprising if there was not an outcry should it ever be suggested that the old system was to be brought back into use.

Trade refuse is collected once each week and a charge is made for this service.

Special arrangements are made for the collection of bulky items of house refuse, and as this service is free it undoubtedly helps to prevent the indiscriminate dumping of large items on vacant land and in ditches. Some members of the public, however, persist in indiscriminate dumping although it is widely known that a free collection service is provided.

Once again it must be said that the only good thing about the disposal of the Town refuse is the distance of the tip from any large number of dwellings.

Twice during the year serious fires broke out on the tip and these were difficult and costly to bring under control. Both the method of tipping which can only be described as crude, and the fact that the tip was not at the time under the exclusive control of the Local Authority were major factors contributing to the cause of the outbreaks of fire. Towards the end of the year steps were taken to bring the tipping site under the complete control of the Local Authority, and this has been of considerable help in minimising the risk of further fires. However, the method of tipping is still crude, and leaves much to be desired.

To maintain and operate the tip according to the recommendations of the Working Party Report on Refuse Disposal is outside the financial and manpower resources of this Local Authority. Following Local Government reorganisation in 1974, refuse disposal is one public health service which should benefit from the increased resources which will be available. The treatment of refuse by pulverisation or some similar method would result in more easily controlled and sanitary tips (if tipping is to be the method of disposal), and would be a considerable improvement to the general environment.

40 visits were made during the year in connection with matters relating to refuse disposal.

PEST CONTROL.

The Council employs one of the workmen to carry out rodent control treatment as and when required. No charge is made in respect of the treatment of infested business premises.

The following are details of the work carried out:-

	<u>Non Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties inspected following notification	29	-
Number of properties infested by rats	24	-
Number of properties infested by mice	5	-
Number of properties treated	38	-

A total of 74 visits were made in connection with treatment work.

The tip was again infested and was difficult to deal with because of the uncontrolled nature of the tip.

It was not found necessary to carry out a sewer treatment.

The tip was infested with flies on numerous occasions, and while a spraying treatment was carried out, the method of tipping made adequate insect control extremely difficult.

No other infestations by insects were encountered apart from one minor infestation by cluster flies.

FOOD AND FOOD HYGIENE.

As mentioned earlier in the report two outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year and a considerable amount of time and energy was spent in investigating these outbreaks which involved not only a number of people in the Urban District, but a considerably larger number in the adjoining Local Authority area.

Visits were made to food premises during the year but, because of the many other duties which have to be carried out, these visits were neither as frequent nor as numerous as desirable. Apart from ensuring that legislation is complied with, advice is given to food handlers in the hygienic methods and practices which should be carried out as a matter of routine.

There is no doubt that many cases of gastro-enteritis occur which are of a mild nature and the patient does not therefore seek medical aid, and it is quite possible that a large percentage of such cases arise from bad food handling practices both in the home and in food premises.

Once again the members of the public are urged to help in raising the standards of hygiene generally in food shops, by complaining either to the shop keepers or to the Local Authority when they observe that unhygienic practices are being carried on. It is often said that the public gets the quality of hygiene it deserves, and to raise the standard, the attitude of the public must change and people will have to become less complacent about bad hygienic practices. Public co-operation is very important in helping to maintain and raise standards of hygiene in food premises.

The following types of food business were carried on in the district at 41 premises.

Sale of Ice Cream	17
Sale of Bread	10
Sale of Grocery and Provisions	13
Bakehouses	4
Sale of Groengrocery and Fruit	8
Fish and Chips	1
Licensed premises	12
Hotels	6
Restaurants, Cafes etc.	5
Sale of Confectionery and Sweets	3
Canteens	1

Attention was again paid to mobile vehicles and informal action was taken to secure improvements in foodhandling methods.

4 samples taken of cooked meats proved to be satisfactory.

17 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and preserved meats etc

The following food-stuffs were surrendered by the owners:-

Canned meats	14 lbs.
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	<u>1 cwt - 57 lbs.</u>
Total:	<u>1 cwt - 71 lbs.</u>

HOUSING

STATISTICS

1. Number of new permanent houses erected during the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By other bodies or persons	NIL

2. Number of new permanent houses under construction during the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By other bodies or persons	NIL

3. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	29
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	NIL

4. Remedy of Defects during the year without the service of Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	3
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at the City of New York, this 1st day of January, 1911.

Very truly yours,
 J. Edgar Hoover
 Special Agent in Charge
 United States Department of Justice
 Division of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED BY THE DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, JANUARY 1, 1911.

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5. Action Under Statutory Powers during the year:-A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices. | |
| (a) By owners | NIL |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (c) Outstanding at 31st December 1970. | NIL |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | 1 |
| (b) By occupiers | NIL |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (d) Outstanding at 31st December, 1970. | NIL |

C. Proceedings under Section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | NIL |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses undemolished in Clearance Area | NIL |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted from the owners. | NIL |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. | NIL |

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | NIL |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | NIL |

E. Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV:-

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | NIL |
| (b) Number of families dwelling therein | NIL |
| (c) Number of persons dwelling therein | NIL |
| (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | NIL |
| (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | NIL |
| (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases | NIL |
| (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. | NIL |
| (5) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions. | NIL. |

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Seven applications for Improvement Grants were received during the year and the work involved in five grants was completed.

39 visits were made to various premises in connection with grant application.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of premises registered under the Act is 50, and the number of persons employed in these premises was 235, comprising 110 males and 125 females.

Two general inspections were carried out during the year and 9 other inspections were made in connection with works being undertaken to remedy contraventions of the Act at various premises.

No notifications of accidents were received.

CARAVAN SITES

There are two licensed Caravan Sites within the Urban Area, One site being licensed for seven caravans and the other for one caravan. Both sites are residential sites.

The legal proceedings instituted last year against the operator of the larger site were finally heard in February, and the operator was convicted on three summonses and fined a total of £40 and £10 costs. The Council's application for revocation of site licence was not granted.

The condition of the site did not improve and further summonses were taken out in the year but these were not heard during 1971.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936

Twelve premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit. The conditions attached to the licences were enforced and this involved the testing of the storage tanks at eight premises.

61 inspections were made to licensed installations during the year.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The number of Statutory Instruments, Circulars, Official Reports and Memoranda appertaining to Public Health seems to increase each year, and one sometimes gets the feeling that so much time has to be spent in reading such documents that little time is left for implementing their recommendations. Fortunately not all circulars etc. apply to all types of Local Authority.

In a small Local Authority the general public know the Officers of the Authority and have ready access to them. This means that considerable time is spent dealing with the complaints and problems of the people. This personal contact with the public is very good and it is hoped that ways will be found to maintain this contact when the larger Local Government Units come into being.

